



Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Program

FY 2019 Annual Report

Criminal Procedure Article, § 11-923(g), Chapter 659 of
2017 (Senate Bill 734)

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Background	2
Introduction	3
Grant Programs	4
Grant Awards	5
Conclusion	10

Background

In 1996, Senate Bill 456, *Crime Victims and Witnesses - Nonsubstantive Reorganization of Laws*, charged the Department of Human Services (DHS) with assisting in the establishment of rape crisis programs in the State to serve and address the special needs of rape victims and to administer grant funds for the programs.¹ Specifically, the Act required the programs to be developed and located in areas of the State to facilitate the use of the program by alleged victims residing in the surrounding area; to provide specialized support services to the alleged victims, both adults and children, of rape and sexual offenses; and to include a hotline and counseling service. The Act also allowed the Department of Human Services to enter into a contract with public or private nonprofit organizations to operate the programs. In addition, it required that funds for the programs be provided in the annual State budget to be used to supplement, but not supplant, funds that the programs receive from other sources. Senate Bill 456 (1996) also required the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the General Assembly each year as it relates to the rape crisis program.

Effective July 1, 2011, Chapter 356 of 2011 (House Bill 739), *Sexual Assault Crisis Programs and Domestic Violence Programs - Transfer to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention*, transferred the responsibility and funding for sexual assault crisis programs and domestic violence programs from the Department of Human Services to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (Office).²

In 2017, Senate Bill 734, *Sexual Assault Victims Resources Act of 2017*, expanded the services provided by sexual assault crisis programs in the State, and required the Governor to include an appropriation of at least \$3 million in the annual State budget for the federally recognized State sexual assault coalition and sexual assault crisis programs.³ It also required the Act to take effect June 1, 2017, with the exception of the mandated appropriation of the \$3 million, which took effect in FY 2019. In accordance with § 11-923(c)(3) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the programs shall:⁴

¹ Maryland Department of Legislative Services. (1996). [Senate Bill 456 \(1996\), Crime Victims and Witnesses - Nonsubstantive Reorganization of Laws](#). This section transferred from Article 88A, § 130 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Also, the Department of Human Resources changed its name to the Department of Human Services in July 2017.

² Maryland Department of Legislative Services. (2011). [Chapter 356 of 2011 \(House Bill 739\), Sexual Assault Crisis Programs and Domestic Violence Programs - Transfer to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention](#).

³ Maryland Department of Legislative Services. (2017). [Senate Bill 734 \(2017\), Sexual Assault Victims Resources Act of 2017 \(Fiscal and Policy Note\)](#).

⁴ Maryland Department of Legislative Services. (2017). [Chapter 659 of 2017 \(Senate Bill 734\), Sexual Assault Victims Resources Act of 2017](#).

- Provide specialized support services to adult and minor alleged victims of sexual assault crimes;
- Include a hotline and counseling service;
- Provide information to alleged victims of sexual assault crimes regarding:
 - Criminal prosecutions of sexual assault crimes;
 - Civil law remedies available to victims of sexual assault;
 - Sexual assault evidence collection; and
 - Victim rights; and
- Participate in the sexual assault response team in each county in which the program regularly provides services.

Pursuant to this Act, the Office may award grants to public or private nonprofit organizations to operate the sexual assault crisis programs certified by the federally recognized State sexual assault coalition. In addition, the Office shall regularly consult, collaborate with, and consider the recommendations regarding sexual assault crisis programs and policies, practices, and procedures that impact victims of sexual assault.⁵ Furthermore, money for the sexual assault crisis programs shall be provided in the annual State budget and shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, money that the programs receive from other sources. If these alternative funding sources are not available or decrease, additional state funds will be needed to meet the requirements of this Act. Moreover, and in accordance with § 11-923(g) of the Criminal Procedure Article, the Office shall submit a report to the General Assembly each year as it relates to the sexual assault crisis programs.

Introduction

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Maryland identified 1,905 reported rapes in 1996.⁶ Although the number of reported rapes decreased from the prior year ($n = 2,130$),⁷ the Maryland General Assembly found and declared that an increasing number of rape and sexual offense victims in Maryland did not have access to necessary counseling and follow-up services.⁸ They also found that several areas of the State had extremely limited support services available to assist alleged victims of rape and other sexual offenses. As a result, the General Assembly required the establishment of rape crisis programs in the State to address the special needs of

⁵ The appropriation of funds may decrease if the federally recognized State sexual assault coalition and sexual assault crisis program receive a new award under the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant program, have been awarded on or before June 1, 2017, or are awarded for continuation of services previously funded by VOCA.

⁶ Federal Bureau of Investigation. [Crime Index Offenses Reports \(CIUS\) 1996 Section II](#).

⁷ Disaster Center. (2017). [Maryland Crime Rates 1960 - 2016](#).

⁸ Maryland Department of Legislative Services. (1996). [Senate Bill 456 \(1996\), Crime Victims and Witnesses - Nonsubstantive Reorganization of Laws](#).

victims. This charge originated with the Department of Human Services and then transferred to the Office.

According to the Uniform Crime Report, the Maryland Department of State Police identified 1,773 reported rapes in 2017.⁹ This represents a 2.3% decrease from the 1,815 rapes reported in 2016. As a result of the National Uniform Crime Reporting program, the definition of rape was changed in 2017.¹⁰

- The old definition of rape states: “*The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.*”
- The new definition of rape states: “*Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.*”

In 2017, the Uniform Crime Report identified the five counties with the highest number of reported rapes as: Montgomery County (n = 319), Baltimore County (n = 326), Baltimore City (n = 385), Prince George’s County (n = 130), and Anne Arundel County (n = 172). Of the 1,773 reported rapes, 93.6% (n = 1,659) consisted of rape by force and 6.4% (n = 114) consisted of an attempt to rape. In addition, and based on the most recent data, law enforcement arrested 432 persons for rape including juveniles (17%); Black (48%); White (51%); and American Indian, Asian, and Pacific Islander (1%) persons.¹¹

Grant Programs

In accordance with Senate Bill 734 (2017), the Office administers the Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis (SARC) and the Rape Crisis Intervention (RFCI) grant program (SARC/RFCI). This statewide program, which is funded through the State’s annual budget and through an Interagency Agreement with the Maryland Department of Health, assists subrecipients provide services to victims of rape and sexual assault.¹² Through the program, funds are available to private and nonprofit organizations, as well as government agencies. Eligible entities must be “full service” rape crisis centers, as identified by the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA).

The primary purpose of the SARC/RFCI program is to meet the needs of alleged victims of rape and sexual offenses in order to assist them achieve self-sufficiency, improve safety, ensure they

⁹ Maryland Department of State Police. (2017). [Crime in Maryland: 2017 Uniform Crime Report](#). This report is the most current Uniform Crime Report in Maryland.

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics. (2017). [UCR Offense Definitions](#).

¹¹ Maryland Department of State Police. (2017). [Crime in Maryland: 2017 Uniform Crime Report](#).

¹² SARC funds are received through the State’s annual budget; whereas, RFCI funds are received through the Interagency Agreement with the Maryland Department of Health until June 2020.

are aware of their rights, and ensure both victims and the community are aware of resources.¹³ Funds are used to assist subrecipients to provide services to victims through a 24-hour hotline, counseling, medical accompaniment, and assistance to access and use other support services, such as legal assistance. Funds are also designated for preventative efforts to include presentations to community groups, pamphlets, and radio and television public service announcements.

Grant funds currently support 17 “full service” rape crisis programs to provide comprehensive services to meet the specific needs of rape and sexual assault victims, and family members affected by the abuse. Grant funds also support Maryland’s federally recognized sexual assault coalition, the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA), which provides technical assistance and support to the state’s comprehensive sexual assault/rape crisis centers as they perform their duties under Criminal Procedure Article §11-923. The provision of services and community education fosters a coordinated community approach to serve victims and includes partnerships with law enforcement, courts, hospitals, local departments of social services, and other related support agencies.

Grant Awards

In FY 2019, the annual State budget provided \$1,875,000 in general funds for the SARC/RFCI program. Through this program, the Office awarded \$1,875,000 to the following subrecipients to continue to provide comprehensive services to meet the specific needs of rape and sexual assault victims and family members affected by the abuse.

Award Number	Award Amount	Project Title	Implementing Organization	Jurisdiction	Project Summary
RFCI-2019-0001	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Family Crisis Resource Center, Inc.	Allegany County	The program provided a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Advocate to victims of sexual assault in the process of a medical or forensic exam. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0002	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	HopeWorks of Howard County, Inc.	Howard County	The program provided a wide range of therapeutic counseling services that reflected the individual recovery needs of sexual assault victims to help them return to healthier functioning levels. Program funds provided operating expenses.
RFCI-2019-0003	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Calvert County Health Department	Calvert County	The program provided comprehensive services to victims of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and rape, to include: a 24-hour helpline; crisis counseling; and long-term therapy. Program funds provided personnel support and operating expenses.

¹³ Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention. (2019). [*FY 2020 Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis \(SARC\) Grant Program & Rape Crisis Intervention \(RFCI\) Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\)*](#).

RFCI-2019-0004	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	For All Seasons, Inc.	Kent, Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot, Queen Anne's Counties	The program provided a full continuum of rape crisis services in the five counties of Maryland's Mid-Shore (Kent, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester and Queen Anne's), to include: a 24-hour hotline in English and Spanish; crisis counseling; support; medical accompaniment; and referrals. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0005	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Center for Abused Persons	Charles County	The program provided services to sexual assault victims, to include: a 24-hour hotline; crisis intervention; ongoing individual, family, and/or group counseling for victims of sexual assault and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse; and advocacy and accompaniment through the criminal justice process. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0006	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention Services Direct Services Program	Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County	Carroll County	The program provided information on victim rights; criminal prosecution of sexual assault crimes; sexual assault evidence collection; crisis and on-going counseling; accompaniment; information and education to the general public and training professionals in the community; and other specialized services designed to help adults and child victims and their families. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0007	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center, Inc. (SARC)	Harford County	The program provided assistance to sexual assault victims, to include: a 24-hour helpline; crisis intervention; individual counseling; information and referrals; community outreach; and case management. Program funds provided contractual services, operating expenses, and other expenses.
RFCI-2019-0008	\$5,556	Rape Crisis Intervention	Montgomery County, Maryland	Montgomery County	The program provided comprehensive services to sexual assault victims, to include: individual and group counseling; information on crime victims' rights; advocacy and accompaniment; information and referrals; community education; and case management. Program funds provided personnel support and operating expenses.
RFCI-2019-0009	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Resource Center (Dove Center)	Garrett County	The program provided counseling services; crisis intervention; advocacy and accompaniment; shelter; a 24-hour hotline; information and referral; outreach services; school based services; group counseling for co-occurring trauma and addiction; education; and awareness activities. Program funds provided personnel support and operating expenses.
RFCI-2019-0010	\$4,161	Rape Crisis Intervention	CASA Citizens Assisting and Sheltering the Abused, Inc.	Washington County	The program provided crisis intervention services; on-going counseling; legal services; advocacy and accompaniment; information and referral; and when appropriate, emergency shelter services. Program funds provided personnel support.

RFCI-2019-0011	\$5,556	Rape Crisis Intervention	University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center (Dimensions Health Corporation)	Prince George's County	The program assisted in developing and implementing strategies specifically intended to provide assistance to sexual assault victims. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0012	\$5,556	Rape Crisis Intervention	Life Crisis Center, Inc.	Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset Counties	The program provided a 24-hour hotline; information and referrals; crisis counseling; ongoing counseling; advocacy and accompaniment; information to victims regarding criminal prosecution, civil remedies, evidence collection, and victim's rights; information and education to the general public and local colleges; specialized services for children; services to adults molested as children; and other specialized services designed to help victims and their families. Program funds provided personnel support and other expenses.
RFCI-2019-0013	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Cecil County Department of Social Services	Cecil County	The program provided a continuum of easily accessible, short-term, crisis intervention services to primary and secondary victims of sexual violence, to include rape, sexual assault, and incest. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-0014	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County	Anne Arundel County	The program provided emergency shelter; case management; legal advocacy; connection to counseling and hospital accompaniment services; 24-hour hotline support for victims of sexual assault; and information on available resources for victims. Program funds provided personnel support.
RFCI-2019-1709	\$8,334	Rape Crisis Intervention	TurnAround, Inc. (Baltimore County)	Baltimore City / Baltimore County	The program provided immediate and ongoing support to victims of sexual assault/abuse and their families, to include: advocacy; case management; emergency shelter; and trauma therapy. Program funds provided operating expenses.
RFCI-2019-1811	\$4,167	Rape Crisis Intervention	Heartly House, Inc.	Frederick County	The program provided medical accompaniment, advocacy, and support to victims of sexual assault/rape during the Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) process. The SAFE Accompaniment program offered trained Crisis Service Workers to accompany sexual assault victims through the five-hour SAFE process. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0001	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	TurnAround, Inc.	Baltimore City / Baltimore County	The program provided immediate and ongoing support to victims of sexual assault/abuse and their families, to include: advocacy; case management; emergency shelter; and trauma therapy. Program funds provided personnel support and operating expenses.

SARC-2019-0002	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Calvert County Health Department	Calvert County	The program provided comprehensive services to victims and their non-offending family members of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and rape, to include: a 24-hour hotline; crisis intervention; and long-term therapy. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, equipment, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0003	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Family Crisis Resource Center, Inc.	Allegany County	The program provided a 24-hour hotline; crisis intervention and supportive services; information and referrals to other community resources; individual and group counseling; legal and medical advocacy and accompaniment; advocacy with other systems; outreach; and community education. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, equipment, operating expenses, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0004	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Center for Abused Persons	Charles County	The program provided a 24-hour hotline; crisis intervention; ongoing individual, family, and/or group counseling for victims of sexual assault and adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse; advocacy and accompaniment through the criminal justice process; and outreach. Program funds provided personnel support, contractual services, equipment, and operating expenses.
SARC-2019-0005	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	HopeWorks of Howard County, Inc.	Howard County	The program provided a wide range of therapeutic counseling services that reflected the individual recovery needs of sexual assault victims to help them return to healthier functioning levels. Program funds provided personnel support and contractual services.
SARC-2019-0006	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County	Carroll County	The program provided information on victim's rights; criminal prosecution of sexual assault crimes; sexual assault evidence collection; crisis and on-going counseling; support groups; and accompaniment and advocacy. Program funds provided personnel support and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0007	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Center, Inc. (SARC)	Harford County	The program provided Safehouse and counseling support, in person and via the helpline, to adult and child victims of sexual violence and their families. It also provided crisis intervention; individual and group counseling; safe housing; hospital accompaniment; community education; and helpline services. Program funds provided salary support, operating expenses, contractual services, and training.
SARC-2019-0008	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Resource Center (Dove Center)	Garrett County	The program provided counseling; crisis intervention; advocacy and accompaniment; shelter; a 24-hour hotline; information and referral; outreach services; school based services; group counseling for co-occurring trauma and addiction; education; and awareness activities. Program funds provided personnel support and operating expenses.

SARC-2019-0009	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	CASA Citizens Assisting and Sheltering the Abused, Inc.	Washington County	The program provided crisis intervention services; on-going counseling; legal services; advocacy and accompaniment; information and referral; and when appropriate, emergency shelter services. Program funds provided personnel support.
SARC-2019-0010	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	University of Maryland Prince George's Hospital Center (Dimensions Health Corporation)	Prince George's County	The program provided a 24-hour hotline; crisis intervention; advocacy; and accompaniment for medical and forensic exams. Program funds provided personnel support.
SARC-2019-0011	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Life Crisis Center, Inc.	Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset Counties	The program provided a 24-hour hotline; information and referrals; crisis counseling; ongoing counseling; advocacy and accompaniment; information to victims regarding criminal prosecution, civil remedies, evidence collection, and victim's rights; information and education for the general public and local colleges; specialized services for children; services to adults molested as children; and other specialized services designed to help victims and their families. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, contractual services, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0012	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Cecil County Department of Social Services	Cecil County	The program provided a continuum of easily accessible, short-term, crisis intervention services to primary and secondary victims of sexual violence, to include rape, sexual assault, and incest. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, contractual services, equipment, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0013	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Montgomery County, Maryland	Montgomery County	The program provided individual and group counseling; information on crime victims' rights; advocacy and accompaniment; information and referrals; community education; and case management. Program funds provided personnel support, operating expenses, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0014	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc. (MCASA)	Statewide	The program collaborated with local sexual assault/rape crisis programs and other direct service providers to encourage appropriate responses to sexual assault within the State, and provided information and education to the general public regarding the prevention and treatment of rape and sexual offenses, to include available services. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, contractual services, equipment, operating expenses, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0015	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	For All Seasons, Inc.	Talbot County	The program provided for the operation of a "full service" rape crisis center for the Mid-Shore with trauma-certified psychiatric and mental health services. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, operating expenses, and other expenses.

SARC-2019-0016	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County	Anne Arundel County	The program provided emergency shelter; case management; legal advocacy; connection to counseling and hospital accompaniment services; 24-hour hotline support for victims of sexual assault; and information on available resources for victims. Program funds provided personnel support, equipment, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-0017	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Walden Sierra, Inc.	St. Mary's County	The program offered services to adult and child victims, and their families. Services included, but were not limited to, advocacy; outreach; crisis assessment and counseling; service coordination; medical accompaniment; referral to other support services; 24-hour hotline support; and consultation to community partners to achieve a coordinated community approach to serving victims. Program funds provided personnel support, travel, operating expenses, and other expenses.
SARC-2019-1832	\$100,000	Sexual Assault Rape Crisis	Heartly House, Inc.	Frederick County	The program provided victims support through a 24-hour hotline; medical accompaniment; crisis intervention; advocacy; individual and group counseling; and referral to other Heartly House and/or community services. Program funds provided personnel support, contractual services, and other expenses.
Total	\$1,875,000				

Conclusion

The Office will continue to support the SARC/RFCI grant program to improve the lives of victims and to provide needed services to victims of sexual violence and their families to make Maryland safer.